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CONGLETON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



Report

on the

Health and Sanitary Circumstances
of the District

for the year ended

31st December, 1966

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Medical Officer of Health

L. RICH, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
9 Park Street, Congleton (Congleton 3655/6)

Chief Public Health Inspector

P. KIRKHAM, M.A.P.H.I.

Engineer and Surveyor

R. O. BIRTWISTLE, M.I.MUN.E., A.R.I.C.S.

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To the Chairman and Members
of the Congleton Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report for the year 1966.

The various activities carried out by the Health Department are given as usual and it is suggested that these be read in conjunction with the Annual Report presented to the Divisional Health Committee.

I must thank the Health Inspector and the Engineer and Surveyor for the contribution they have made to this report, and the Clerk for the ready assistance he has given me at all times.

I beg to remain,
Your obedient servant,

L. RICH,

Medical Officer of Health

The figures in parentheses throughout this report are for 1965

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Estimated Poulation 16,140 (15,540)

Births

Live Births—

			<i>Total</i>		<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	265	(244)	139	(125)	126	(119)	
Illegitimate	13	(9)	10	(6)	3	(3)	

Still Births—

Legitimate	6	(4)	3	(2)	3	(2)
Illegitimate	—	(1)	—	(—)	—	(1)

Live birth rate per 1000 estimated average population mid-1966 17.3 (16.4)

Live birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 of the population 17.7 (18.1)

Still birth rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 17.6 (19.3)

Still birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 total (live and still) births 15.4 (15.7)

Still birth rate per 1000 total population3 (.32)

Infantile Mortality

The total number of deaths is shown as follows :

		<i>Total</i>		<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	5	(9)	5	(5)	—	(4)
Illegitimate	—	(—)	—	(—)	—	(—)

Infantile mortality rate per 1000 live births ... 17.9 (35.5)

Infantile mortality rate for England and Wales 19.0 (19.0)

Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births 18.8 (36.8)

Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births 0 (0)

Deaths

		<i>Total</i>		<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>
Deaths (all ages) ...	271	(254)	127	(111)	144	(143)

Death rate per 1000 estimated average population 11.5 (11.6)

Death rate for England and Wales per 1000 of population 11.7 (11.5)

The following table shows the deaths from all causes within the district during the year.

CAUSE	Total	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	1
Tuberculosis, other forms of	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	1	1	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	4	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	5	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	3	—	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms...	20	11	9
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	—
Diabetes	2	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	29	8	21
Coronary disease, angina	39	28	11
Hypertension with heart disease	4	2	2
Other heart disease	23	10	13
Other circulatory disease	11	4	7
Influenza	—	—	—
Pneumonia	7	—	7
Bronchitis	10	7	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	3	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	2	—	2
Congenital malformations	3	2	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	93	34	59
Motor vehicle accidents	2	2	—
All other accidents	4	4	—
Suicide	1	—	1
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
TOTAL	271	127	144

Deaths from Puerperal and Maternal causes :

Puerperal Sepsis	0	(0)
Other Maternal causes	2	(0)
Maternity mortality rate per 1000 live and still births	7	(0)

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Care of Mothers and Young Children

Attention is drawn to the increase in work being done in our various clinics.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking all the voluntary workers who render such valuable assistance at our clinics. Their work is much appreciated by all concerned.

Welfare Centre	New cases			Total Attendances			No. of Clinics held	Cases seen by Doctor Average per	Clinic seen by Doctor	Av. attend'ce per Clinic
	0-1	1-2	2-5	0-1	1-2	2-5				
Goostrey	62 (44)	— (—)	— (—)	568 (460)	167 (125)	182 (233)	24 (24)	481 (413)	20.0 (17.2)	38.2 (34.0)
Holmes Chapel	112 (89)	— (—)	— (—)	744 (760)	228 (190)	242 (218)	27 (24)	649 (624)	24.0 (26.0)	44.9 (48.6)
Mow Cop	20 (13)	— (—)	— (—)	181 (150)	46 (48)	33 (23)	24 (23)	124 (105)	5.1 (4.6)	10.8 (9.6)
Rode Heath	39 (35)	— (—)	— (—)	389 (356)	162 (171)	145 (103)	22 (23)	311 (264)	14.1 (11.5)	31.6 (27.3)
Scholar Green	47 (34)	— (—)	— (—)	354 (362)	98 (202)	144 (131)	23 (24)	228 (261)	9.9 (10.9)	25.9 (28.9)

The names of the Health Visitors covering the Rural District are as follows :

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Districts</i>
Harris, M. (Miss)	Linthorpe, 9 Bromley Drive, Holmes Chapel. Tel. H.C. 3275	Church Hulme, Cranage, Somerford Somerford Booths, Swettenham, Twemlow, Goostrey
Richardson, B. (Miss)	Clinic Centre, Sandbach Road South Alsager. Tel. Alsager 3215	Church Lawton, Odd Rode, Smallwood
Furness, H. M. (Miss)	Clinic Centre, Sandbach Road South Alsager. Tel. Alsager 3215	Betchton, Hassall
Howarth, R. (Mrs.)	Clinic Centre, Wellington Road, Bollington. Tel. Bollington 2376	Hulme Walfield,
Rae, E. O. (Mrs.)	Ashfields Clinic, Platt Av., Sandbach Tel. Sandbach 2970	Arclid, Brereton
Henderson, H. (Mrs.)	Ashfields Clinic, Platt Av., Sandbach Tel. Sandbach 2970	Bradwall, Elton
Corbishley, M. (Miss)	The Clinic, Nursery Lane, Congleton Tel. Congleton 2261	Moreton-cum- Alcumlow, Newbold Astbury Tetton

Home Nursing

The District Nurses serving our area act in double capacity as Home Nurses and Midwives. They are as follows :

V. SPENCER, Black and White Cottage, Astbury	Congleton 3451
M. W. YARNOLD, Booth Bed Lane, Goostrey	Holmes Chapel 3244
L. B. BLUNSUM, 19 West Way, Holmes Chapel	Holmes Chapel 2226
H. BARRY, 2 Drenfell Road, Scholar Green	Kidsgrove 2929
I. HOYLE, 9 Offley Avenue, Sandbach	Sandbach 2582
M. WAINWRIGHT, 87 Platt Avenue, Sandbach	Sandbach 2256

We are constantly enlarging the items of nursing equipment available for assisting patients in their own homes.

Air Beds	Commodes	Page Turner
Air Rings	Crutches	Toilet Aid
Back Rests	Enuresis Blankets	Tripod Walking Sticks
Bed Cradles	Feeding Cups	Urinals
Bed Pans	Fireguards	Walking Aids
Beds	Lifts	Walking Sticks
Carrying Chairs	Mackintosh Sheets	Wheel Chairs

We are also finding that the Disposable Sheets are invaluable for dealing with cases of incontinence. It is also possible in suitable cases to provide a "Foul Washing" service.

Births 1965

Hospital		Home		Private Nursing Home	
Live	Still	Live	Still	Live	Still
225	6	57	—	—	—
(174)	(4)	(69)	(1)	(—)	(—)

Chiropody

The use of this service has grown enormously and the demand was so great that it has been found necessary to reduce the number of treatments after the first six monthly treatments to one treatment every two months. However, in exceptional cases where it is necessary to give the treatment more frequently, it is possible to do this under the scheme.

The scales for chiropody are as follows :

Free Treatments - Those in receipt of National Assistance Benefit or whose income does not exceed £5/11/0 per week in the case of single persons or £8/8/0 per week in the case of married couples.

Half cost paid by Cheshire County Council - When income between £5/11/0 and £7/1/0 per week in the case of single persons. When income between £8/8/1 and £10/8/0 per week in the case of married couples.

This scale may be varied from time to time.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Completed Primary Courses - Persons under age 16 (South East Cheshire)

Type of Vaccine	Year of Birth					Others Under 16	Total	
	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962-59		At Clinics	By G.P.'s
Quadruple	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Triple (D/WC/T)	435	626	69	28	45	12	594	621
Diph./Whooping C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diph./Tetanus ...	—	5	4	1	6	1	8	9
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Whooping Cough...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tetanus	—	—	—	—	5	6	1	10
Polio-Salk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-Sabin	339	728	119	58	172	69	712	773

Reinforcing Doses - Persons under age 16 (South East Cheshire)

Type of Vaccine	Year of Birth					Others Under 16	Total	
	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962-59		At Clinics	By G.P.'s
Quadruple	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Triple (D/WC/T)	4	68	148	21	433	68	236	506
Diph./Whooping C.	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Diph./Tetanus ...	—	2	23	6	583	443	1013	44
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	3
Whooping Cough...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tetanus	—	—	—	2	5	10	1	16
Polio-Salk	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-Sabin	2	70	128	33	841	546	1203	417

Smallpox Vaccination - Persons under age 16 (South East Cheshire)

	Year of Birth				Others under		At Clinics	By G.P.'s
	1966	1965	1964-62	1961-52	16	Total		
Vaccination	43	494	333	151	72	1093	459	634
Re-Vaccinated ...	—	—	1	65	28	94	3	91

Public Health Laboratory Service

A new laboratory has opened at Chester which we find more convenient than going to Manchester.

Domestic Help Service

Home Helps employed during 1966

Full time	—	(—)
Part time	54	(60)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	54	(60)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Home Helps employed at 31st December 1966

Full time	—	(—)
Part time	33	(29)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	33	(29)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Applications received during 1966

Aged and Infirm	22	(14)
Chronic Sick	3	(6)
Mentally Disordered	—	(—)
Maternity	3	(1)
Others	10	(—)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	38	(21)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Cases attended during 1966

Aged and Infirm	48	(46)
Chronic Sick	7	(8)
Mentally Disordered	—	(—)
Maternity	3	(1)
Others	5	(—)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	63	(55)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Cases receiving attention at 31st December 1966

Aged and Infirm	37	(23)
Chronic Sick	7	(6)
Mentally Disordered	—	(—)
Maternity	—	(—)
Others	1	(—)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	45	(29)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

I am indebted to Mr. Delwyn G. Davies, Engineer and Manager of the Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board for the following information.

Congleton Rural District is supplied partly from the Mow Cop borehole and partly by a very small bulk supply purchased from the Macclesfield and District Water Board at Astbury, but mainly by River Dee water from the Hurleston Works. In the South Eastern part of the district River Dee and borehole water is mixed.

I am indebted to the Council's Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. R. O. Birtwistle, for the reports on Sewerage and Housing.

Development of the Rural District

The Rural District is still attracting considerable interest from development companies, and although prices of land are rising rapidly, the time is quickly approaching when all available building land will have been bought. This policy, one with which the Council cannot compete financially because the valuations of the District Valuer do not generally approach by a considerable margin the prices asked by landowners is resulting in the finding of the individual building plot virtually impossible.

This unprecedented interest in building in the Rural District is bringing in its train, problems in the provision of adequate sewerage facilities, and works constructed only a few years ago when capacities were based on planning estimates of population growth, are now reaching the stage when enlargement is becoming urgently necessary.

While the right of connection to a sewer, if available, cannot be refused to a developer, some companies appreciate the problems facing a small Rural District and have agreed to contribute a capital sum towards the cost of works which are necessary, in order to accommodate the additional sewage discharge from their properties.

As circumstances have permitted during the year, the time of technical staff has been allotted to the preparation of capital schemes and preliminary investigations have been completed on other proposals as are now indicated.

SEWERAGE

PARISH OF BETCHTON

Lawton Heath End

Although agreement was reached on the method of dealing with the sewage from the development of adjacent building sites in this area by two building contractors, building did not commence until June and in consequence the scheme for pumping the sewage to the Snapes Aqueduct Sewage Treatment Plant at Lawton Gate in the Parish of Church Lawton was not implemented during the year. The construction of the new Works in any event was not sufficiently far advanced to receive the sewage and the surplus capacity in the Lawton Heath End Works was enough to deal with the foul sewage from the small number of dwellings completed.

Malkins Bank

On reviewing the problems which face the Council in this village, the River Authority decided that they would require eight times the dry weather flow to be discharged to the Sandbach Urban District Council's Pumping Station in Sandbach Road. That Authority eventually decided that they could not accept this volume of sewage.

The outfall sewer which serves the village was laid many years ago when the Rural Council was both the Sanitary Authority and the Highway Authority. In these circumstances the sewer drains both the houses and the roads. Separation is, therefore, essential and the Council must now decide either to construct a new foul sewer in Sandbach Road leaving the present sewer as a surface water sewer to be handed to the County Council as Highway Authority or to construct a new surface water sewer, the Rural Council retaining the present sewer as a foul sewer. A new treatment works will also be required.

PARISH OF BRERETON

Brereton Green

It was decided to include an amount in the estimates for the construction of an additional Humus Tank at the treatment works on the bank of the River Croco, and tenders were invited, the work being completed in October.

PARISH OF CHURCH HULME

Holmes Chapel Village

Tenders were received in November 1965 for the construction of the new treatment works for Holmes Chapel. The lowest amounted to £175,490.

Work commenced on the 15th August 1966 and by the year end progress had been made with the construction of the filter floor, the pump house and No. 1 Sedimentation Tank, to the certified value of £22,940.

PARISH OF CHURCH LAWTON

Red Bull Drainage

Some additional properties were connected to the sewers which were laid in 1964-65, but by the end of the year not all householders had yet availed themselves of the new service.

Snapes Aqueduct Sewage Treatment Works

These works are to serve parts of the Parish of Church Lawton, Rode Heath in the Parish of Odd Rode and Lawton Heath End in the Parish of Betchton.

Tenders were invited for their construction in September 1965, the lowest amounting to £66,439. Ministry approval was given in February 1966, but it was not until the 24th May that the contractor entered the site, although the starting date agreed with him was 25th April. By the end of the year certificates had been issued for £17,126.

PARISH OF GOOSTREY

The Contract for the laying of the sewer in Hermitage Lane commenced on the 27th January 1966, and work was completed on 31st March 1966.

Further development in the village is projected. The interest of builders in this parish has been well founded for they appear to have no difficulty in selling houses and bungalows over a considerable price range. Several companies have agreed to make contributions towards the cost of enlarging the treatment works. It is clear that additional capacity in the works will have to be provided earlier than was originally anticipated.

PARISH OF NEWBOLD ASTBURY

Good progress was made during the year with the preparation of the scheme for this village of Astbury. Details as to the type of meters required by the Borough of Congleton have not yet been made known.

PARISH OF ODD RODE

Rode Heath Drainage

In November 1965, tenders were received for the construction of sewers at Rode Heath, the lowest amounted to £46,706.

It was not until 22nd August 1966 that work actually commenced, the contractor whose tender had been accepted finding himself unable to complete the Contract documents for a considerable time after acceptance by the Council and approval by the Ministry.

Odd Rode Sewage Treatment Works

Although at times the River Authority's analytical reports on the effluent from these works are satisfactory that which is unsatisfactory indicates that the balance between sewage flow and works capacity is critical and that enlargements will be necessary before long.

PARISH OF SMALLWOOD

Discussions continued regarding drainage problems in Smallwood - particularly in the vicinity of Four Lane Ends and Jackson's Works. The sewage from a number of private properties and six Council houses discharges to watercourses, and according to the farmer landowners, land drainage problems result.

PARISH OF SOMERFORD

Blackfirs Drainage

Good progress had already been made with the preparation of this scheme, but difficulty arose in locating a site for the pumping station. The site originally chosen, although not rejected by the land owner in the first place, became the subject of long discussion with his Agent and eventually it was decided to seek an alternative.

The Borough of Congleton to whose sewers the sewage will be discharged, made known that they would insist on a meter being provided to record the flow. They also indicated that strict separation of surface water would be a necessity.

On submission of the scheme to the County Council for an indication of the amount of grant aid, the suggestion was made that intercepting sewers be laid in private land at the rear of the existing properties in Blackfirs Lane so as to reduce the redrainage works in gardens. This duplicates the sewer which in accordance with the Council's normal policy, would have been laid in the highway.

Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act 1961

In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Council made application to the Mersey and Weaver River Authority, seeking permission to continue the discharge of sewage effluent from some 45 treatment plants. During the year the Authority made known its conditions for the continued discharge from various sewage treatment plants as now indicated.

Odd Rode Sewage Treatment Works

The conditions which follow include a maximum figure for the discharge, of 146,000 gallons per day of fully treated effluent and the excess discharge over three times the dry weather flow, i.e. 16,700 gallons per hour of partially treated effluent.

I. In respect of the Discharges of Fully Treated Sewage Effluent

1. The nature shall be that of purified sewage effluent.
2. The volume in dry weather shall not exceed 146,000 gallons in any one day.
3. The composition shall be in accordance with the undermentioned standards i.e.:
 - (a) The biochemical oxygen demand (5 days at 20°C) shall not exceed 20 milligrammes per litre.
 - (b) The suspended solids content (dried at 105°C) shall not exceed 30 milligrammes per litre.
 - (c) The effluent shall satisfy the methylene blue stability test (5 days at 20°C).
 - (d) The content of nitrate (expressed as N) shall not be less than either 10 milligrammes per litre or the content of free and saline ammonia whichever is the less.

II. In respect of Partially Treated Effluent

1. The nature shall be that of settled storm sewage.
2. The rate of discharge shall be limited to that amount by which the rate of flow of sewage arriving at the works shall have exceeded 16,700 gallons per hour, that is to say three times the dry weather flow and shall take place only for so long as an overflow is occurring from the storm sewage tanks.
3. The composition shall be in accordance with the undermentioned standards, i.e.:
 - (a) The suspended solids content (dried at 105°C) shall not exceed 120 milligrammes per litre.
 - (b) The sulphide content (as S) shall not exceed 1 milligramme per litre. The volume referred to in I(2) represents the dry weather flow received at the works plus an allowance of 10%.

Housing Sites

Consents were granted in respect of the discharge from the following housing sites :

Bradwall—Hollins Green	6
Elton—Clay Lane	23
Moreton—Ackers Crossing	31
Newbold Astbury—Brownlow	32
Newbold Astbury—Peel Drive	34
Smallwood—Bank House Lane	39
Smallwood—School Lane	42
Somerford Booths—Mill Lane	45
Tetton—Moston Green	50

Royal Commission Standard will be called for and a requirement on stability.

The River Authority express the view that regular brushing and cleaning of the filter distributors whether rotary or fixed, together with frequent desludging of the septic and humus tanks (where provided) will enable the standards to be achieved under normal conditions.

The standards required are :

1. The biochemical oxygen demand (5 days at 20°C) shall not exceed 20 milligrammes per litre.
2. The suspended solids content (dried at 105°C) shall not exceed 30 milligrammes per litre.
3. The effluent shall satisfy the methylene blue stability (5 days at 20°C).

The Land Drainage Act 1961

The Mersey and Weaver River Authority drew the Council's attention to the powers vested in District Councils by Section 34 of this Act, whereby they have powers to prevent flooding or to remedy or mitigate the damage it causes. These powers are substantially the same as those of the River Authority in respect of "main river". The local authority is enabled to maintain, improve or construct drainage works and to make drainage byelaws. The execution of any such drainage work is subject to the consent of the River Authority.

Under Section 28 of this Act a County District Council can serve notice requiring work for the removal of obstructions in "non-main rivers" subject to prior notification by the River Authority.

HOUSING

Dwellings

The Council's ownership of dwellings, at 31st December 1966 was:

Dwellings (houses, flats, flatlets) 1095

There were no additional dwellings built during the year.

Shops

The Council owns five shops :

4 at Drenfell Road, Scholar Green, Odd Rode.

1 at Lawton Gate, Church Lawton.

The four at Scholar Green are now operated as three, one shop-keeper renting two.

Garages

The number of garages was increased during the year by 22 to a total of 204.

12 were built at Hassall Green, Betchton.

5 were built at Bank View, Goostrey.

5 were built at Rees Crescent Holmes Chapel.

LAND IN HAND

Goostrey (Sandy Lane) - Approximate area : 2.5 acres.

No further progress was made during the year with the proposals to develop this land. The difficulty resulting from frontagers' refusals to contribute towards the cost of making up Sandy Lane as a street has not yet been overcome.

Odd Rode (Rode Heath) - Approximate area : 3.947 acres

There now appears to be a need for dwellings to be erected by the Council in Rode Heath, and the proposals will be reviewed when sewers are available.

Odd Rode (Mount Pleasant) - Approximate area : 3.83 acres.

The proposals to develop this land were further considered, and towards the end of the year four firms were invited to submit a scheme for the development of the site by the erection of bungalows and houses.

Dane Stile Farm

In January this farmhouse was demolished by the Council's staff, such materials as slates were salvaged for future use.

The Contract for the extension of Brookfield Drive towards Middlewich Road was let and good progress was made.

Building of 18 Council Bungalows on either side of the entrance from Middlewich Road commenced in November.

A site has been reserved for the erection of a Hostel for elderly people.

Considerable interest was shown in the private building plots and they were quickly sold.

Service Road, Chester Road, Holmes Chapel

This road which was required by the County Council, in order to restrict access on to the main road was constructed during the year, apart from the short length in front of one private house.

Airey Houses - Cinderhill Lane, Scholar Green

The compensation for the loss of the pair of houses in Cinderhill Lane which was agreed towards the end of 1965 resulted in proposals for their replacement. Although one house was only partially damaged it was considered expedient to replace the pair, because Airey components were no longer available.

The solution appeared to be to erect a pair of industrialised houses on the site, as these could be clad with materials very similar in colour and texture to the houses on either side.

To this end the Council inspected various "system" or "industrialised" houses which had been erected in the Potteries and elsewhere, and in due course invited offers for the erection of the pair and also six at Lawton Gate on land originally reserved for a Hostel, but which it was decided was not required for this purpose.

Maintenance of Council Houses

The staff engaged in maintaining the Council houses consisted of :

Foreman	...	...	...	1
Bricklayers	...	...	...	2
Labourer	...	...	...	1
Plumbers	...	...	...	2
Joiner	...	...	...	1
Painters	...	...	...	5
Total				<hr/> 12 <hr/>

This staff also maintains other Council property, although they are specifically appointed to maintain the Council's dwellings. Vehicles operated by the Department include :

- 1 Karrier Bantam Tipping Lorry
- 1 Bedford 8 cwt Van
- 4 Bedford 15 cwt Vans

Shops - Scholar Green

The scheme for the erection of shops did not materialise, as it was considered to be too involved particularly when it became known that the Education Authority was interested in erecting a Primary School at the rear of the frontage land.

The land was then sold to the County Council, it being decided not to include the clinic and library.

Bus Shelters

Discussions took place with the Arclid Parish Council regarding the erection of a bus shelter at the Arclid Cross Roads where the bus stop is much used by visitors to the hospital.

Shelters have been provided at the joint expense of the Rural Council and Parish Council at the following sites :

Newcastle Road, Betchton - opposite the New Inn.

On the old road at Brereton Green.

Sandbach Road, Tetton, near the canal bridge.

Maintenance of Amenity Features

At one time the mowing of grass verges was undertaken by the Housing Maintenance Staff, but it became clear that Estate maintenance would be better undertaken by a separate gang. Two men were allocated to do this work. The machines used are of the rotary scythe type - the grass being left on site. With these machines, frequency of cutting is therefore essential if the tidiness which is to be desired, is regularly achieved.

Improvement in this service is obviously necessary since the introduction of the "Best Kept Village Competition" - the cutting of verges twice a year as carried out by the Highway Authority is not enough to provide the standard of neatness now required.

IMPROVEMENT OF COUNCIL HOUSES

Sandbach Road, Church Lawton

A Contract was let for the installation of W.C.s in the bathrooms of these six Council Houses.

39 Malkins Bank, Betchton

Tenders for the improvement of this cottage were invited in September. A bathroom is to be added and new grates, cupboards and sink are to be provided.

Private Building Development

Building Plans - Private Development

				<i>Byelaws only</i>	<i>Byelaws & Planning</i>	<i>Planning only</i>	<i>Outline Planning</i>	<i>Total</i>
January	...	...	...	19	20	1	8	48
February	...	...	...	9	9	15	9	42
March	...	...	...	9	13	11	11	44
April	...	...	...	6	17	7	9	39
May	...	...	...	12	25	8	10	55
June	...	...	...	16	7	5	11	39
July	...	...	...	21	21	4	11	57
August	...	...	...	17	19	7	12	55
September	...	...	...	17	18	8	7	50
October	...	...	...	6	18	9	13	46
November	...	...	...	12	15	6	8	41
December	...	...	...	2	18	9	7	36
				146	200	90	116	552

This compares with a total of 533 for the previous year.

Total submissions during recent years have been :

1959	—	414	1963	—	490
1960	—	475	1964	—	552
1961	—	489	1965	—	533
1962	—	426	1966	—	552

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Tuberculosis

One case was notified and the number of people on register at 31st December 1966 is shown below :

Cases on Register at 31st December 1966

	Up to 1 yr.	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 & over	Total
Male Pulmonary	—	—	1	1	4	1	3	3	2	15
Female Pulmonary	—	—	—	1	6	4	6	—	—	17
Male Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—	2	5	2	—	1	1	11
Female Non-Pulmonary . . .	—	—	1	4	4	3	2	2	1	17

For the purpose of comparison I have recorded the notifications of Tuberculosis during 1966 in conjunction with the notifications of this disease received each year since 1957.

Notifications - 1957 to 1966

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
	P NP	P NP	P NP	P NP	P NP	P NP	P NP	P NP	P NP	P NP
MALE										
Up to 1 year										
1- 5										
5-15										
15-25	1							1		
25-35	1				1					
35-45										
45-55	2							1		
55-65	1			1						
65 and over										
FEMALE										
Up to 1 year										
1- 5										
5-15		1			1			1		
15-25				1		1				
25-35								1		
35-45	1				1					1
45-55			1		1					
55-65										
65 and over							1			
Totals	6 1	- -	1 -	2 -	2 2	- 1	1 -	3 1	- -	- 1

Deaths - 1957 to 1966

	1957		1958		1959		1960		1961		1962		1963		1964		1965		1966	
	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP	P	NP
MALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1- 5																				
5-15																				
15-25																				
25-35																				
35-45																				
45-55	1				2		1													
55-65																				
65 and over																				
FEMALE																				
Up to 1 year																				
1- 5																				
5-15																				
15-25																				
25-35																				
35-45																			1	
45-55																				
55-65																				
65 and over					1															
Totals	1	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1966

DISEASE	AGE DISTRIBUTION													Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital
	Under 1	1- 15	2- 15	3- 15	4- 15	5- 15	10- 15	15- 20	20- 35	35- 45	45- 65	65 & over			
Dysentery	-	-	1	-	3	8	4	2	-	2	1	-	21	-	
Food Poisoning ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Measles	2	25	28	32	41	140	11	4	1	-	-	-	284	1	
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	4	-	
Scarlet Fever ...	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection

The staff remains at one foreman, five driver/loaders and nine loaders. There have been four changes in staff, one necessitated by sickness but the establishment has been maintained. A new 35 cubic yard diesel Eagle/Bedford Crushload vehicle, fitted with a salvage compartment, was put into operation in October. Previously the Council had operated petrol-driven side loaders only. The vehicle is being used weekly on each of three of the four districts. Over the last five years, over one thousands bins have been added to the rota including 300 in 1966, but a regular weekly service has been maintained without any increase in staff. The incentive bonus scheme can be said to be a contributory cause for this. Nevertheless, the early purchase of a further modern compression type of vehicle is considered essential together with the possible addition to the establishment of another loader. The Council have authorised me to employ casual labour if an emergency should arise.

The tables below show the units collected on each district and the differing bonus according to the use of one or two loaders. A unit is considered to be up to two dustbins per premises. At the end of 1967, the highest number of units collected on any particular day by a refuse team was 358. This is equivalent to a figure considerably over 400 dustbins and is approaching the maximum target for a driver and two loaders and is certainly so for a driver and one loader. A 42 hour week is worked with two hours regularly paid as overtime.

(1) Driver and two loaders

District	2 Loaders Target	Units Collected 1/1/66	Bonus 1/1/66	Units Collected 31/12/66	Bonus 31/12/66
1	998	1221	223	1280	282
2	1042	1275	233	1343	301
3	950	1065	115	1080	130
4	998	1196	198	1332	334
TOTALS	3988	4757	769	5035	1047

(2) Driver and one loader

District	1 loader Target	Units Collected 1/1/66	Bonus 1/1/66	Units Collected 31/12/66	Bonus 31/12/66
1	650	1221	571	1280	630
2	689	1275	586	1343	654
3	625	1065	440	1080	455
4	650	1196	546	1332	682
TOTALS	2614	4757	2143	5035	2421

Refuse Disposal

Refuse disposal is principally by tipping, the greater quantity of which is on controlled lines. The Council's main tip is at the Depot at Arclid sited in a birch wood. It is hoped to increase the use of larger capacity vehicles enabling a full day's work to be done in one load when the Arclid Tip will be practically the only one in use. This would enable full control to take effect.

The Council purchased a set of rotaped tracks for the tractor and this has been of considerable help in securing compaction and levelling of the refuse tip.

To date abandoned cars and cars which have served their useful life have been disposed of through the services of a dealer in the adjoining County of Staffordshire who have installed a crushing plant. The Council have secured planning permission to use the Arclid Depot as a compound for the temporary retention of abandoned vehicles whilst ascertaining ownership but to date this has not been found necessary owing to speedy action in tracing the persons concerned.

Vehicles and Maintenance

The table below indicates the mileage and fuel used during 1966 with the figures for 1965 in parentheses :

<i>Number</i>	<i>Make</i>	<i>Duty</i>	<i>Mileage</i>	<i>Galls Fuel</i>	<i>m.p.g.</i>
PMB 601	Karrier Gamecock (spare vehicle)	Refuse Collector	2438	395	6.1
PMB 602	Karrier Gamecock	Refuse Collector	6377	1262	5.0
PMB 603	Karrier Gamecock	Refuse Collector	5807	984	5.9
WMA363	Karrier Gamecock	Refuse Collector	9535	1556	6.1
743 NFM	Karrier Gamecock	Refuse Collector	6388	1218	5.2
367 LG	Bedford/Eagle Cesspool Emptier	Septic tanks and Nightsoil	9985	1194*	8.3
HDB283D (7/10/66)	Bedford/Eagle Crushload	Refuse Collector	1118	183*	6.1
			41648	6792	6.1
			(41797)	(6984)	(6.1)
894 STU	Fordson Tractor	Refuse Tips, Sewage works, etc.	89 gallons diesel fuel used		
* Diesel					

Vehicle PMB 601 was retained solely for its value as spare parts when obtaining a new Eagle Crushload.

Maintenance of the Engineer and Surveyor's Department vehicles is also carried out at the Depot by the Foreman.

Nightsoil and Septic Tank Service

Approximately 264 premises in the Council's area are without water conservancy. Pail closets are emptied weekly and vaults fortnightly. The new sewage scheme for the parish of Rode Heath is in progress and completion of this will greatly reduce the quantity of work carried out on nightsoil collection. The table below shows the quantity of work carried out by the cesspool emptier on septic tank desludging with the figures for 1965 in parentheses :

<i>Type of Tank</i>	<i>No. of Loads</i>	<i>No. of Hours</i>	<i>No. of Visits</i>	<i>No. of diff. tanks</i>
Domestic	312 (266)	349 (326)	280 (252)	213 (209)
Non-Domestic	295 (618)	276 (508)	116 (165)	68 (61)
Council Houses ...	120 (87)	130 (108½)	80 (70)	51 (37)
Council Sewage Works	100 (129)	95¼(131)	64 (91)	19 (19)
Outside area	51 (26)	54 (32)	46 (20)	31 (12)
TOTALS	878(1126)	904¼(1105½)	586 (598)	382 (338)

Salvage

Only waste paper, container waste and newspapers and magazines are salvaged and the following are the details for the year :

<i>Receipts</i>			<i>Weights</i>						<i>Revenue</i>					
	<i>t</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>q</i>	<i>t</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>q</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>		
Kraft Paper Sacks ...		9	2	(	—	)	£4	10	3	(—)		
Container Waste ...	9	11	2	(4	12	3)	£95	15	0	(£45	0	1)	
Mixed Waste Paper	16	10	2	(9	5	2)	£128	1	4	(£70	6	11)	
Newspapers and Magazines	1	18	3	(3	0	0)	£13	11	3	(£23	5	0)	
TOTAL							£241	17	10	(£138	12	0)		
<i>Expenditure</i>				<i>£</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>		<i>£</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>d</i>				
Materials	...	...	...	£20	8	9	(—)					
Labour	...	...	...	£186	4	3	(£183	7	8)			
				£206	13	0	(£183	7	8)					

Food and Food Premises

Four hundred and eight visits have been made to food premises. The following matters have been the subject of letters sent regarding unsatisfactory conditions at 34 premises.

Article 8	Food to be protected from risk of contamination	1
Article 9	Personal cleanliness	1
Article 14	Cleanliness of sanitary conveniences and room and affixing of hand washing notices	15
Article 15	Water supply to be provided	4
Article 16	Provision of wash-hand basins, nailbrush, soap etc.	12
Article 17	Maintenance of first-aid materials	1
Article 18	Provision of accommodation for clothing	4
Article 19	Facilities for washing food and equipment ...	1
Article 23	Cleanliness of food rooms, etc.	21
Article 24	Accumulation of refuse, etc.	2

The following types of food premises are located in this area :

Grocers and General	35
Public Houses	19
Public Houses and Licensed Clubs with Restaurants	17
Cafes	14
Sweets and Confectionery	21
Sweets, Confectionery and Off-Licence ...	2
Bakehouses	3
Village and Church Halls	8
Village Halls used as School Canteens ...	2
School Canteens	6
School Kitchens	11
Butchers	9
Fish and Chips	2
Factory Canteens	8
Chemists	2
Food Warehouse	1
Dairy	2
Total	162

A food canning factory was previously sited in this area but has been discontinued. The premises have been taken over by a whole-sale grocery distribution firm.

Proceedings were taken under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 as follows :

Wasp in fish cake	... ..	Fined £5 ; £6/10/0 costs
Dirt in milk bottle	... ..	Fined £20 ; £6/10/0 costs
Dirt on the exterior of a sliced loaf	...	Fined £25 ; £16 costs

Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

The one slaughterhouse has continued to operate with slaughtering solely for use at the shop premises. The following are details of the works :

Carcases inspected and condemned	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	105	4	3	224	40
Number not inspected ...	—	—	—	—	—

All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:

Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	17	3	—	19	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	17.85	75	—	8.5	2.5

Tuberculosis only:

Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—

<i>Cysticercosis</i>	—	—	—	—	—
-----------------------------	---	---	---	---	---

Slaughter of Animals Act 1958

Two licences were issued to people residing in the area.

Milk Supplies - Brucella Abortus

The following table indicates results of samples taken by the Cheshire County Council during the year :

	Total Submitted	Number Brucella Positive
Bulk Samples	73	6
Dealer Samples	118	—
Individual Cow Samples ...	113	6
	<hr/> 304	<hr/> 12

In all cases of Brucella Positive samples, either arrangements are made for the immediate removal of the offending cattle or heat treatment of the milk is required either by agreement or by service of notice under Regulation 20.

Factories and Workplaces

The following details are given of the work carried out during the year under review :

Particulars	No. on Register	No. of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority ...	60	35	4	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	4	4	1	—
TOTALS	64	39	5	—

Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act 1956

As far as time allows, attention continues to be given to routine visits under the above Act and during the year five visits have been made.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

All registered premises have received routine visits during the year. It is hoped to maintain bi-annual inspections of all registered premises. No serious contraventions have been noted and although difficulty obtained in securing compliance with certain items, there are no current problems on hand at the moment.

The following tables give details of visits and contraventions :

Registration and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving general insp. during year
Offices	—	8	8
Retail Shops	2	29	29
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	—	—	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ...	—	21	21
Fuel Storage Depots	—	1	1
TOTALS	2	59	59

Total number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to Registered
Premises under the Act 113

Analysis of Contraventions

										Number of Contraventions found
Section 4	—	Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Section 5	—	Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 6	—	Temperature	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Section 7	—	Ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Section 8	—	Lighting	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Section 9	—	Sanitary Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Section 10	—	Washing Facilities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Section 11	—	Supply of drinking water	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 12	—	Clothing accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Section 13	—	Sitting facilities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 14	—	Seats (Sedentary Workers)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 15	—	Eating facilities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 16	—	Floors, passage and stairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Section 17	—	Fencing exposed parts machinery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 18	—	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 19	—	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 23	—	Prohibition of heavy work	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Section 24	—	First Aid - General Provisions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
TOTAL										34

Public Health Inspections

Summary of Visits

Animal Boarding Establishment Act 1963	...	6
Animals - Keeping of	... ..	4
Caravans	... ..	33
Conversions	... ..	4
Clean Air Act 1956	... ..	—
Drainage - including septic tanks	... ..	256
Dustbins	... ..	23
Factory—with mechanical power	... ..	33
without mechanical power	... ..	—
Outworkers	... ..	2
Food Premises—General	... ..	98
Bakehouses	... ..	3
Butchers	... ..	21
Cafe and Canteens	... ..	60
Dairy etc.	... ..	10
Fish and Chips	... ..	9
Ice Cream	... ..	13
Hotel and Public Houses	...	70
Slaughterhouses	... ..	99
Unsound Food	... ..	24
Vehicles	... ..	1
Farms, Sanitary Conveniences for outworkers	...	5
Housing—General	... ..	195
Overcrowding	... ..	—
Council House Applications	... ..	38
Housing Act 1949 - Grants	... ..	275
Infectious Disease—General	... ..	9
Food Poisoning	... ..	—
Insect Pests	... ..	20
Insect Pests—Disinfestation	... ..	5
Miscellaneous—Interviews, meetings, etc.	... ..	68
Nuisance—General and Housing	... ..	220
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963		98
Petroleum	... ..	43

Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	97
Scavenging—General	...	...	...	...	...	...	121
Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Teams at Work	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Garages	...	...	...	...	...	...	256
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
							—
Total							2323
							—

Conversions

Twenty-two premises in the area have had closets converted to water closets principally under the improvement grant provisions. No Grants were paid under Section 47 of the Public Health Act 1936.

The Rode Heath Sewage Scheme is proceeding, however, and will enable a large proportion of the existing pail closets and vaults in this district to be so converted.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960

At the close of the year there were eighteen residential caravans on individual sites and one holiday caravan similarly sited. In addition, there was one site with forty-six residential caravans and forty-seven holiday caravans and one site with thirty-six holiday caravans.

It was not found necessary to institute proceedings for the removal of unauthorised caravans but in three cases, considerable pressure was necessary, together with warning letters, before the caravans were eventually removed.

Clean Air Act 1956

The Council have not yet deemed it expedient to establish a smoke control area and no problems in this respect have been encountered during the year.

Rodent Control

Contracts totalling £647 were fulfilled at 101 premises. Private premises are treated free. The following details are given of the work carried out :

	<i>Number Treated</i>
Private Houses	91
Refuse Tips and Sewage Works ...	18
Industrial and Trade Premises ...	31
Farms	84

Sewers were again found to be negative on test baiting.

Several distressing incidents have occurred of infestation of occupied houses by rodents. The mode of entry to the premises has usually been found to be by improperly made-up openings for the various services into the external wall below ground level. Entry is then via a cavity and often through the plaster type of internal air grate.

The Council employ one full time Operator and provide him with a van.

Water Supply

Only five houses remain within the district without an internal water supply. In addition, 62 houses are without mains supply. Of this number, 33 properties are connected to one private supply from a natural spring. During the year unsatisfactory samples were obtained and the owner of the supply stated he no longer wished to be responsible for its continuation. The Mid-Cheshire Water Board have submitted a scheme for a new 4 inch main to serve all properties, the Council have agreed to enter into a Guarantee of Income Agreement and Ministry approval is now awaited.

Twenty-nine samples of private water supplies have been taken during the year of which ten samples were found to be unsatisfactory. As mains water is not readily available in these cases —

- (1) efforts are made to improve the source of supply and collection point ;
- (2) advice is given as to the treatment of water before use ; and
- (3) particular attention is given to future sampling to determine any marked deterioration.

Petroleum (Consolidation) Act 1928

Fifty-five premises are now licensed for the storage of petrol and are regularly visited on the occasion of the renewal of the annual licence. The Fire Prevention Officers of the Cheshire County Council Fire Brigade are of great assistance in this respect.

An increasing number of tanks now require to be tested having attained over twenty years of life.

Nuisances

The nuisance from the industrial tip noted in the last Annual Report has been a major concern of the Council throughout the year and 172 complaints were registered regarding obnoxious smells from this source. Repeated adjournments in the local court occurred following service of an Abatement Notice on the 13th May 1965, and it was not until September 1966 that the Magistrates eventually made a Nuisance Order requiring the defendant company to abate the nuisance within three months.

The site is one with a planning approval for tipping with very few restrictions and none as to the type of material to be deposited. With the advent of the 1961 Rivers Pollution Prevention Act, such a site became of inestimable value. The present operator has created intolerable living conditions for thousands of people over many square miles. The Council have sought action in the High Courts and have succeeded in obtaining an Interlocutory Injunction but which is very limited in its restrictions. At the time of preparation of this Report the hearing for the Injunction Proper has been fixed for October 1967. Proceedings were taken for contraventions of the Nuisance Order and, again after repeated adjournments, the Magistrates imposed the maximum penalty as provided for in the Public Health Act of £5 with £2 for each day on which the offence continues. Such penalties appear to have no significance whatsoever in this type of business.

Noise Nuisance. Seven complaints of nuisance from noise were received and investigated, one relating to an animal boarding establishment and the others a noise from a factory in an adjoining district.

Housing

The following action has been taken during the year regarding unfit houses :

Closing Orders	...	...	...	...	...	3
Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	...	2
Houses Demolished	...	...	...	...	...	3
Undertakings accepted	...	...	...	...	...	1
Closing Orders determined	...	...	...	...	...	7
Undertakings cancelled	...	...	...	...	...	4
Families rehoused	...	...	...	...	...	2
Families otherwise displaced	...	...	...	...	...	2

At the close of the year, 26 occupied houses were known to be unfit of which four were the subject of demolition orders and nine were the subject of undertakings to make fit on vacation. Seven additional houses were found to be unfit during the year.

Fifty-seven unfit houses are vacant and the subject of Closing Orders or Undertakings. Thirteen of these houses are either being made fit or have works proposed.

Improvement Grants

The following tables indicate the works carried out on grant schemes :

I. STANDARD

	Owner / Occupiers		Tenanted	
	Standard 5 point	3 point	Standard 5 point	3 point
1. Number of applications received ...	10	—	5	—
Number of applications approved...	10	—	5	—
Number of applications refused ...	—	—	—	—
2. Number of dwellings improved ...	11	—	1	—
3. Amount paid in grants	£1239/4/5			
4. Average grant per house	£103/5/4			
5. Number of amenities provided—				
(a) fixed bath				5
(b) shower				—
(c) wash-hand basin				6
(d) hot water supply (to any fittings)				7
(e) water closet				
(i) within dwelling				10
(ii) accessible from dwelling				—
(f) food store				4

II. DISCRETIONARY

	Owner / Occupiers	Tenanted
1. Number of applications received	14	2
2. Number of applications approved	14	2
3. Number of applications refused	—	—
4. Number of dwellings improved	20	6
5. Amount paid in grants	£7028/0/0	
6. Average grant per house	£270/6/2	

Representations were received from two tenants for the provision of bathrooms. Preliminary Notices were served and undertakings were accepted from the owners that the bathrooms would be provided within twelve months.

No Improvement Areas have been made.

Certificates of Disrepair

No action has been found necessary under these provisions during the year.

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